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MINUTEMEN SCANS

MARVEL COMICS
X-CUTIONER'S SONG
PART 8
X-FORCE
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30TH ANNIVERSARY
1962 1992
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
BEYOND VIDEO... THE NEW Dragon Quest GAME!
(Announcements Inside)

THE MUTANT LIBERATION FRONT HAS BEEN CRUSHED! PROFESSOR XAVIER INCHES CLOSER TO DEATH! THE ONE WHO COULD SAVE HIM FACES OFF AGAINST THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT ALL -- APOCALYPSE VERSUS STRYFE! THE X-CUTIONER'S SONG CONTINUES!

INSIDE THE TEMPLE AT BANT MAZA, BEHIND THE WALLS OF YESTERDAY--

-- THE BATTLE FOR TOMORROW BEGINS!

THE TIME HAS COME, APOCALYPSE.

THE DEVIL-TO-COME MUST PAY HIS DUE--

-- TO THE DEVIL WHO MADE HIM...

PAY ME, MASTER OF TIME!

AND LET YOUR DEATH BE THE COIN OF EXCHANGE!

I OWE YOU NOTHING STRYFE...

STAN LEE PROUDLY PRESENTS

SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY

A TALE OF TIME AND VENGEANCE BROUGHT TO YOU BY

FABIAN NICIEZA WRITER | GREG CAPULLO PENCILER | HARRY CANDELARIO INKER | CHRIS ELIOPOULOS LETTERER | FRENCHIE BUCCELLATO COLORIST | BOB HARRAS EDITOR | TOM DEFALCO COUNTIN' $$$

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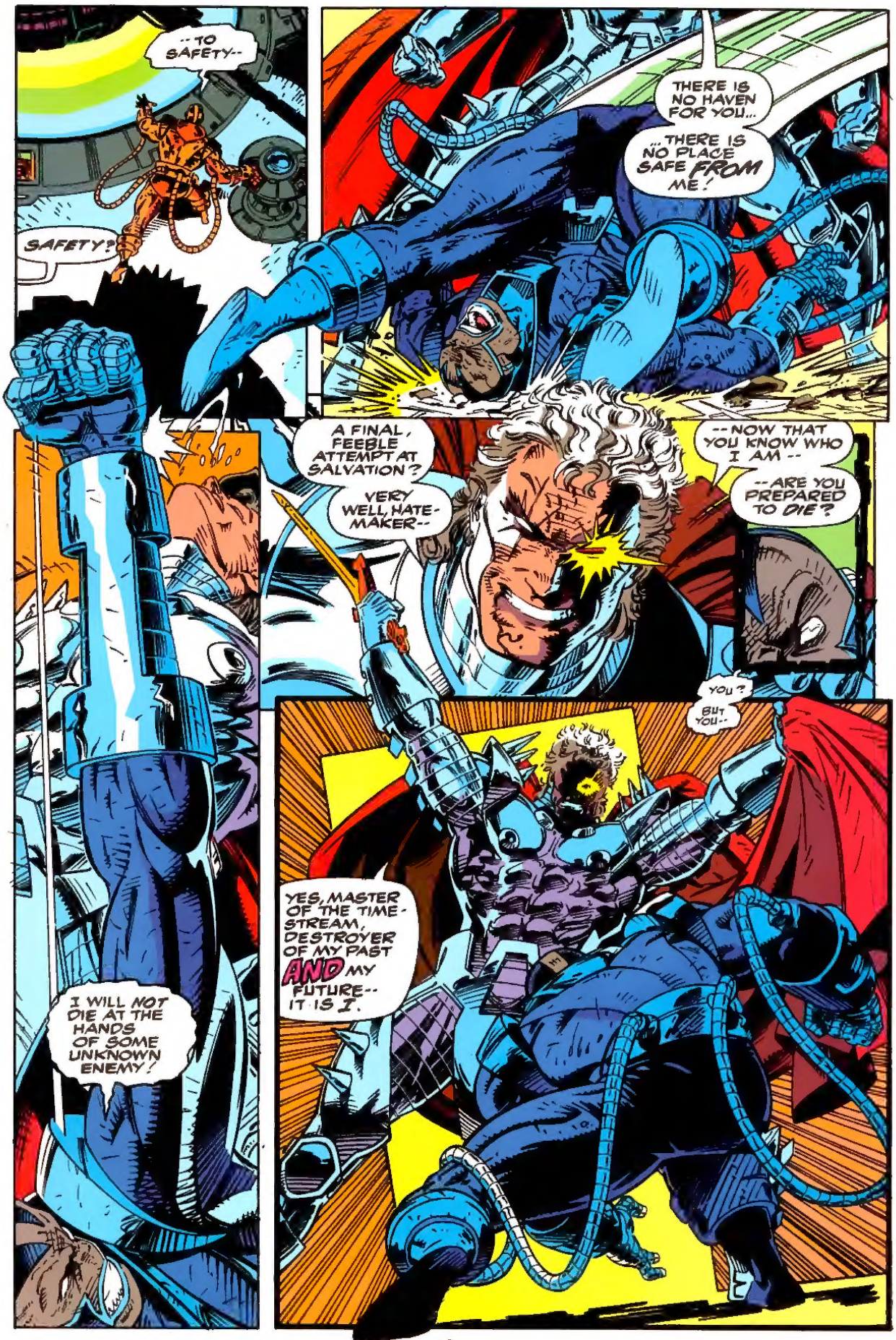
LIAR!
YOU OWE ME FOR EVERYTHING THAT'S GONE WRONG WITH MY LIFE!
YOU OWE A WORLD FOR THE WRONGS YOU HAVE FOISTED UPON IT!
MILLIONS CRY IN AGONY EVERY DAY!
BUT THAT SCREAMING IS LIKE UNTO SILENCE--
--WHEN COMPARED--
--TO THE LONELY CRIES--
--OF AN ABANDONED CHILD!

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU CRIED A BABE'S TEARS OF NEED ?
HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE YOU LONGED FOR THE GENTLE WARMTH OF A MOTHER'S TOUCH ?
DO YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW LONG IT HAS BEEN FOR ME ?
IT HAS BEEN FOREVER!
A FOREVER-SOLITUDE BROUGHT ON BY YOU, FATHER OF PAIN, SON OF THE MORNING FIRE !
TRYING TO REACH YOUR TELEPORTATION MATRIX, APOCALYPSE ?
TRYING TO ESCAPE ?
WHERE CAN YOU FLEE ?


--TO SAFETY--
SAFETY?
THERE IS NO HAVEN FOR YOU...
...THERE IS NO PLACE SAFE FROM ME!
A FINAL, FEEBLE ATTEMPT AT SALVATION?
VERY WELL, HATE-MAKER--
--NOW THAT YOU KNOW WHO I AM--
--ARE YOU PREPARED TO DIE?
YOU?
BUT YOU--
YES, MASTER OF THE TIME-STREAM, DESTROYER OF MY PAST AND MY FUTURE--IT IS I.
I WILL NOT DIE AT THE HANDS OF SOME UNKNOWN ENEMY!

AND NOW, YOU END -- DEAD OUTSIDE, DEAD INSIDE, LIKE ME --
--A MAN OUT OF PLACE--
SHUFFAK
--A MAN OUT OF TIME!!
--HURK--
--THE BLADE--
--BUT NOW--
--WHEN I ONCE USED IT--
--TO KILL YOU--!
TRANSPORT MATRIX ACTIVATED
VRMMMM
NO!!
COULD HE STILL LIVE?!
STAB HIS EYES!

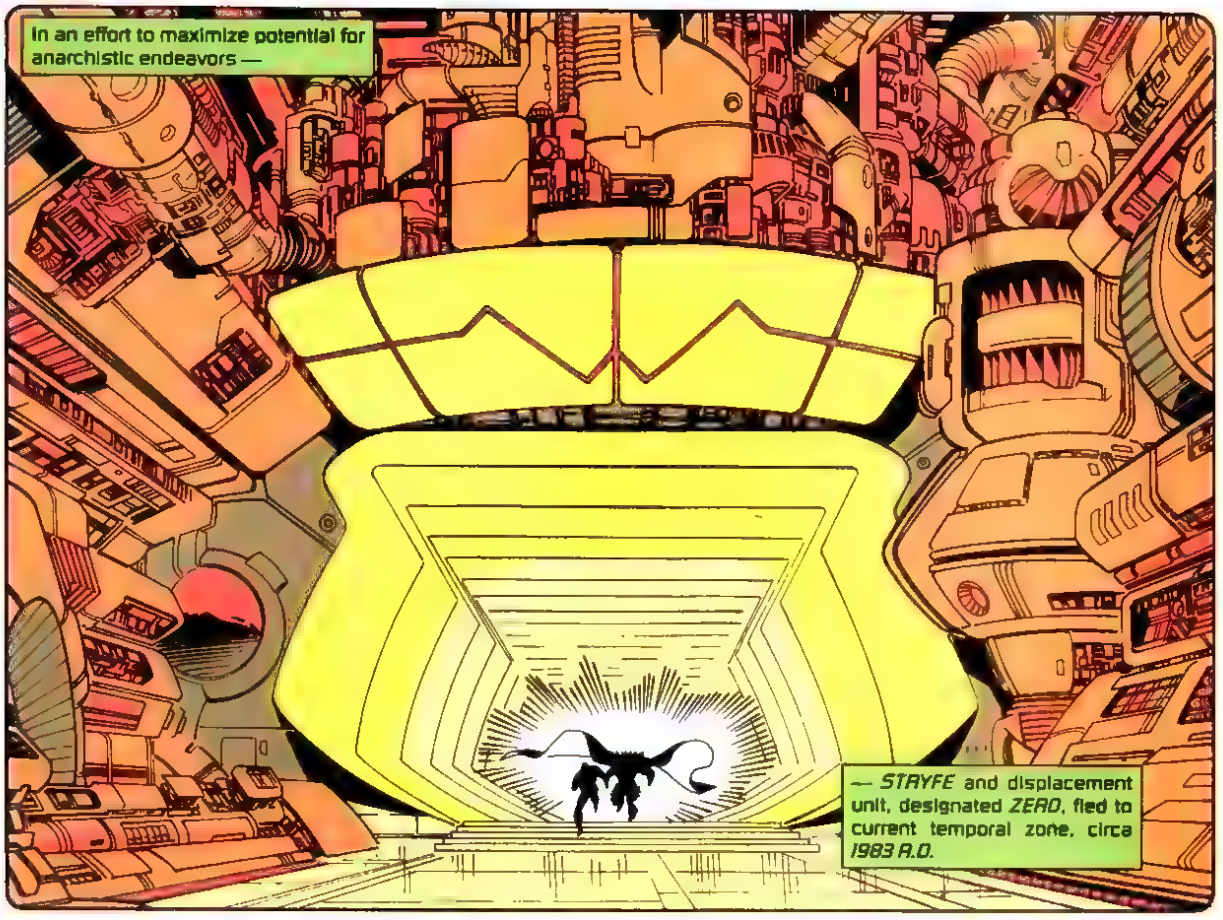
NO. HE HAS NO PLACE TO GO.
DEAD... IN TIME...
TSSKTSSK
GHIN KLUN
WHO... ARE YOU?
AH, THE DARK RIDERS.
YOU FOLLOW THE SURVIVOR, DO YOU NOT?
YES.
THE FITTEST OF THE SPECIES? THE STRONGEST?
YES.
WHO HAS BESTED APOCALYPSE?
YOU HAVE.
WHO DO YOU FOLLOW?
WE FOLLOW YOU.

A PLACE CALLED GRAYMALKIN. FOR THE MYSTERIOUS MUTANT NAMED CABLE--
--IT IS MEANT TO BE A REFUGE--A SAFE HAVEN--A PLACE OF PEACE--
--BUT NOW IT IS PARTY TO A COUNCIL OF WAR.
SO MUCH SEEMS INSIGNIFICANT WHEN VIEWED FROM THIS PERSPECTIVE, DOESN'T IT, WOLVERINE?
AT MY SIZE, BISHOP--
--I PUT EVERYTHING INTO PERSPECTIVE.
'SIDES, I DON'T NEED THIS VIEW TO TEACH ME ABOUT MY IN-SIGNIFICANCE.
LIFE'S DONE A FINE JOB OF THAT LATELY.
LOGAN--PUT OUT THE CIGARETTE.
YOU KIDDIN'?
VIKKT
Flammable Carcinogenic Material In Use:.
Extinguishing Procedure Activated:.
SPLUSHT
Procedure Enabled:.

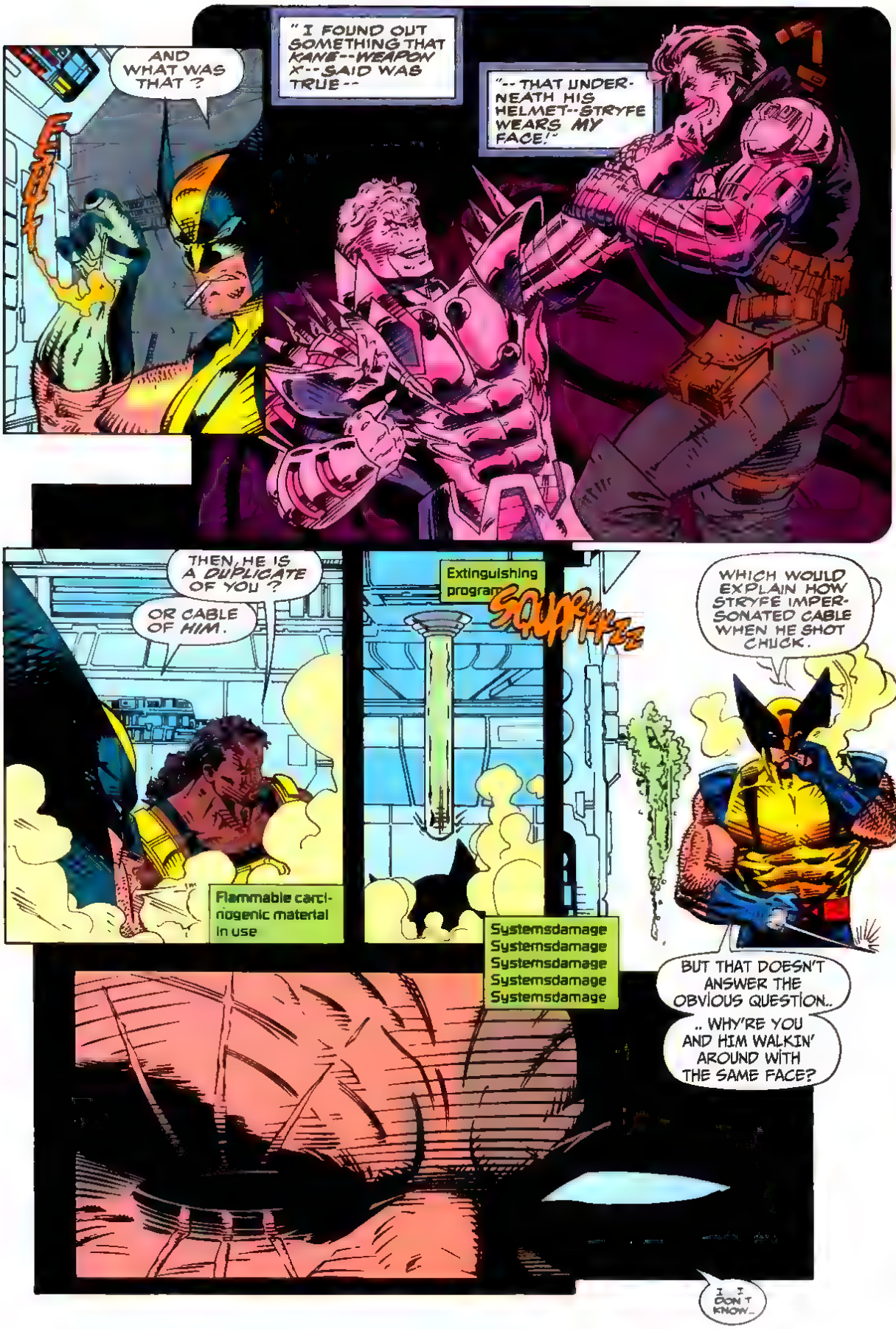
DON'T BLAME THE COMPUTER. IT'S ONLY FOLLOWING ITS PROGRAMMING.
UHM-- WHERE I COME FROM--SMOKING ISN'T CONSIDERED VERY SMART.
I DON'T LIKE YOU, CABLE.
I'VE NEVER LIKED YOU.
I LIKE YOUR HOUSE EVEN LESS.
IT'S GOT AS MUCH PERSONALITY AS YOU DO.
MORE, ACTUALLY.
COME ON. WE HAVE A JOB TO DO.
TO ERADICATE THIS MAN, STRYFE--
--THE TERRORIST BEHIND THE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON CHARLES XAVIER.
MORE THAN A TERRORIST, BISHOP.
MORE A FORCE FOR ANARCHY. BORN AND BRED FOR CHAOS...
... BUT DESPERATELY TRYING TO FIND A SENSE OF ORDER.
NICE POETRY. START TALKIN'.
PROFESSOR, STRYFE LOG RECOUNT FOR THE DETAIL IMPAIRED.
PROFESSOR?
STRYFE: real name unknown. Age: unknown.
Status: self-proclaimed anarchist and fomentor of political dissent. Nor-Am Pact region, circa 3783-3806 A.D.

STRYFE has participated in acts of aggression against both the controlling rulers, the *HIGH LORDS* of *NEW CANAAN* —
— as well as the rebellion forces known as the *CLAN CHOSEN*.

December 25, *3806*, Canaanites defeated the remnants of the Mao-Sino Province Pact —
— thereby consolidating control of global forces


In an effort to maximize potential for anarchistic endeavors —
— *STRYFE* and displacement unit, designated *ZERO*, fled to current temporal zone, circa *1983 A.D.*

I FIRST ENCOUNTERED HIM ABOUT EIGHT YEARS AGO.
I KNEW HE WAS A MAN OUT OF TIME.
HOW?
BECAUSE SO AM I.
I WAS A PART OF THE CLAN CHOSEN WHO SOUGHT TO OVERTHROW CANAANITE RULE.
WHEN WE FAILED, I CAME TO THIS TIME.
SO YOU AND STRYFE ARE DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE SAME COIN?
YES. NO. MAYBE.
"HE CAME BACK TO EXACERBATE THE MUTANT REBELLION--TO TRY AND PREVENT THE HIGH LORD ASCENSION.
"I CAME BACK TO TRY AND CONTROL THE ASCENSION--TO ENSURE ORDER IN THE FUTURE.
"THERE'S JUST ONE PROBLEM. WELL, ONE MAJOR ONE, ANYWAY.
"I RECENTLY FOUGHT STRYFE--HAND-TO-HAND--AND LEARNED SOMETHING ABOUT THE MAN INSIDE THE ARMOR..."


AND WHAT WAS THAT ?
" I FOUND OUT SOMETHING THAT KANE--WEAPON X--SAID WAS TRUE--
"--THAT UNDERNEATH HIS HELMET--STRYFE WEARS MY FACE!"
THEN, HE IS A DUPLICATE OF YOU ?
OR CABLE OF HIM.
Flammable carcinogenic material in use
Extinguishing program
SQUIRT
Systemsdamage
Systemsdamage
Systemsdamage
Systemsdamage
Systemsdamage
WHICH WOULD EXPLAIN HOW STRYFE IMPERSONATED CABLE WHEN HE SHOT CHUCK.
BUT THAT DOESN'T ANSWER THE OBVIOUS QUESTION..
.. WHY'RE YOU AND HIM WALKIN' AROUND WITH THE SAME FACE?
I... I DON'T KNOW...

XAVIER'S MANSION, OUTSIDE OF SALEM'S CENTER, WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK.

LOOKIN' MORE'N MORE LIKE AN EPISODE A' M*A*S*H, HUH?

WITHOUT THE LAUGH TRACK, I HOPE, SAM.

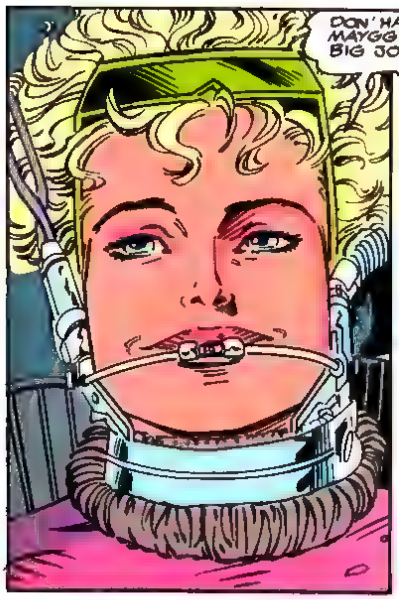
YEAH, STEVIE, WELL, WE DID A NUMBER ON THE MLF, ALL RIGHT--

--BUT THEY SURE DID ONE ON US TOO!

GAMBIT, ROGUE, AN' QUICK$ILVER 'RE OUTTA THE FIGHT--

--AND BOOMER ACTUALLY GOT A BROKEN JAW!

HOW YOU DOIN', TIGER?



STABLE. MOSTLY CONCUSSIONS.

STEVIE, HOW'S EVERYONE HOLDING UP?

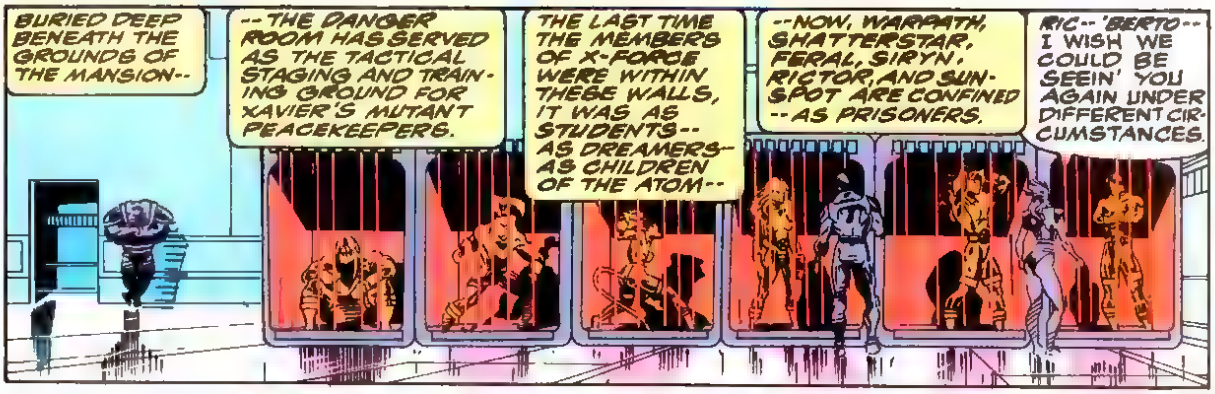
IT'S ROGUE I'M WORRIED ABOUT, ALEX.

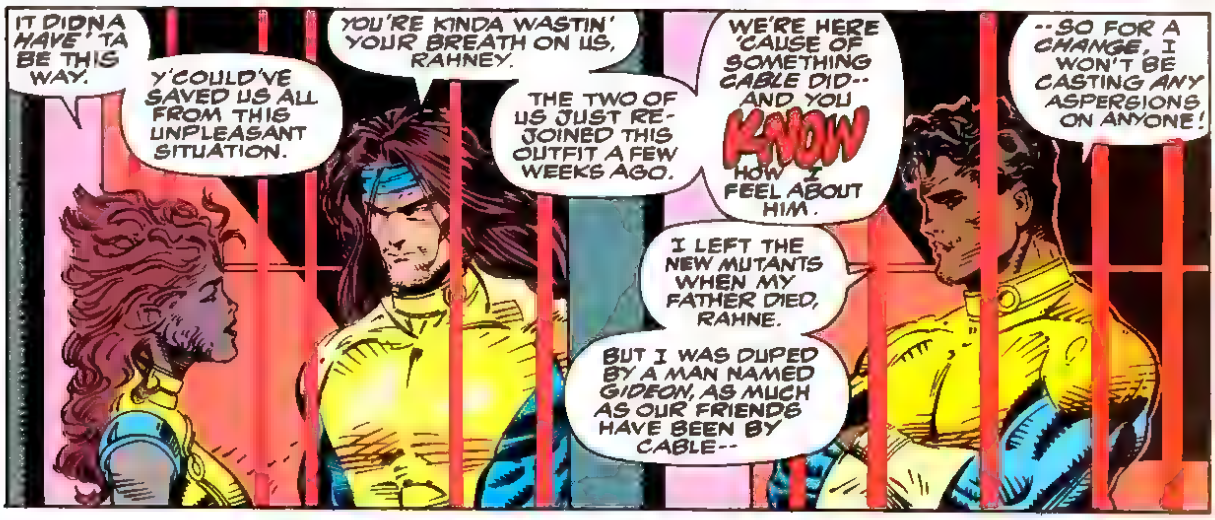
WE WON'T KNOW HOW MUCH RETINAL DAMAGE STROBE DID TO HER UNTIL SHE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS.

--COULD YOU DO A WALK THROUGH THE DANGER ROOM?

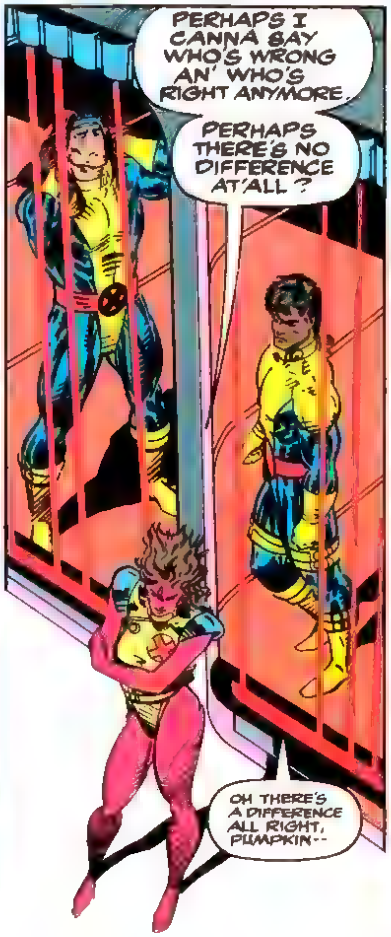
SOME OF YOUR "TROOPS" HAVE BEEN ACTING UP.

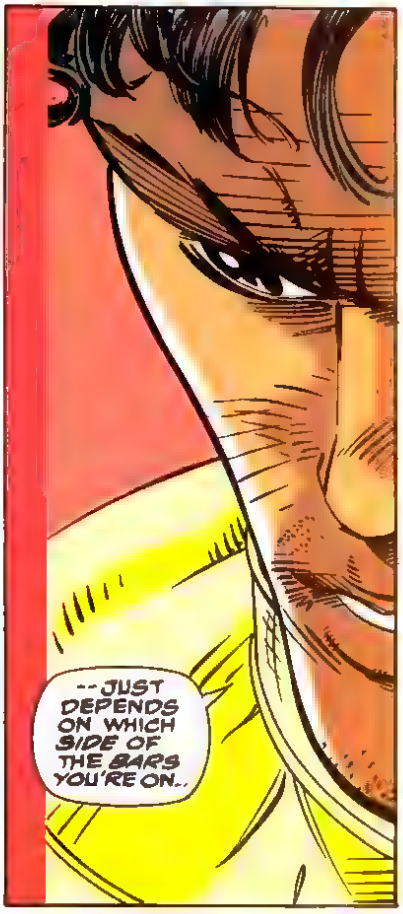
VAL, ORORO-- ANYTHING YET--?
ONLY BAD NEWS, I FEAR.
THE VIRUS HAS SPREAD THROUGHOUT VIRTUALLY HIS ENTIRE BODY.
MOIRA AND HANK HAVE DECIDED THAT THEY MUST STOP THE TECHNO-ORGANIC MESH FROM CO-OPTING CHARLES' INTERNAL ORGANS
BUT THAT WAS SMACK IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS HEAD!
THEY'RE GOING TO ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THE VIRUS FROM ITS CORE--
--THE POINT AT WHICH IT FIRST ENTERED HIS BODY.
ISN'T THIS KIND OF A DESPERATE MOVE HERE?
AT THIS POINT, ALEX.
DESPERATE METHODS--
--MAY BE THE ONLY ONES CHARLES HAS LEFT!


BURIED DEEP BENEATH THE GROUNDS OF THE MANSION--
--THE DANGER ROOM HAS SERVED AS THE TACTICAL STAGING AND TRAINING GROUND FOR XAVIER'S MUTANT PEACEKEEPERS.
THE LAST TIME THE MEMBERS OF X-FORCE WERE WITHIN THESE WALLS, IT WAS AS STUDENTS-- AS DREAMERS-- AS CHILDREN OF THE ATOM--
--NOW, WARPATH, SHATTERSTAR, FERAL, SIRYN, RICTOR, AND SUNSPOT ARE CONFINED --AS PRISONERS.
RIC-- 'BERTO-- I WISH WE COULD BE SEEIN' YOU AGAIN UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES.


IT DIDNA HAVE' TA BE THIS WAY.
Y'COULD'VE SAVED US ALL FROM THIS UNPLEASANT SITUATION.
YOU'RE KINDA WASTIN' YOUR BREATH ON US, RAHNEY.
THE TWO OF US JUST RE-JOINED THIS OUTFIT A FEW WEEKS AGO.
WE'RE HERE 'CAUSE OF SOMETHING CABLE DID-- AND YOU KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT HIM.
I LEFT THE NEW MUTANTS WHEN MY FATHER DIED, RAHNE.
BUT I WAS DUPED BY A MAN NAMED GIDEON, AS MUCH AS OUR FRIENDS HAVE BEEN BY CABLE--
--SO FOR A CHANGE, I WON'T BE CASTING ANY ASPERSIONS ON ANYONE!

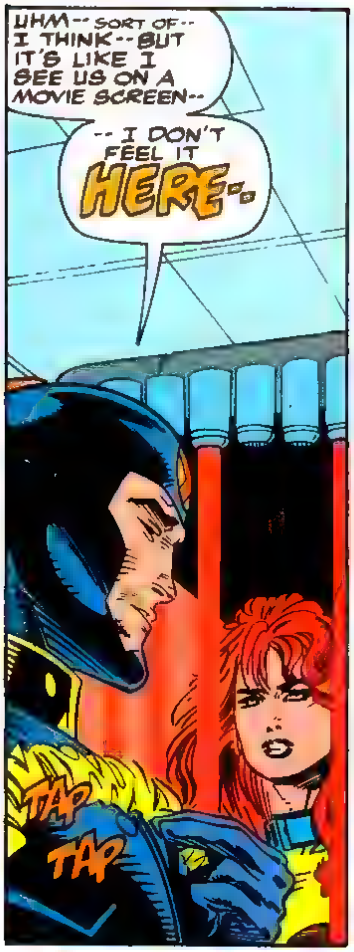
WE'VE ALL BEEN THROUGH A LOT, RAHNEY--
-- EVEN YOU-- WITH THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED TO YOU IN GENOSHA--

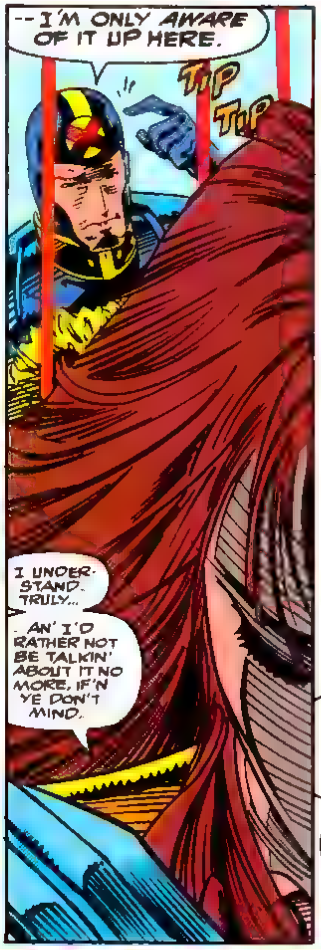

PERHAPS I CANNA SAY WHO'S WRONG AN' WHO'S RIGHT ANYMORE.
PERHAPS THERE'S NO DIFFERENCE AT'ALL?
OH THERE'S A DIFFERENCE ALL RIGHT, PUMPKIN--

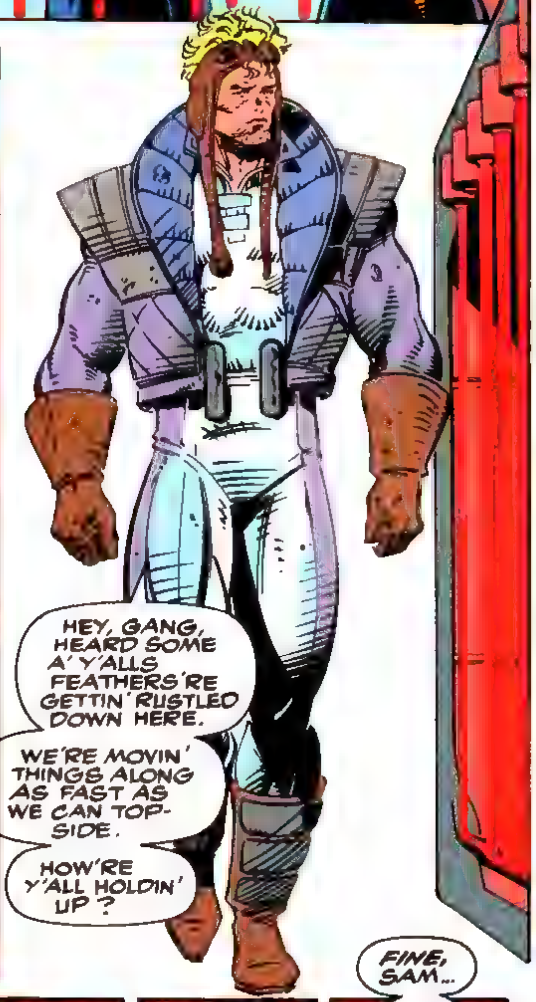

--JUST DEPENDS ON WHICH SIDE OF THE BARS YOU'RE ON..

I DON'T BELIEVE YE CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT WE BEEN THROUGH, JAMIE MADROX--
--WHAT WE HAD TOGETHER!

THERESA, LISTEN-- I DO REMEMBER-- BUT YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND--
--IN MANY WAYS, THE MAN YOU--UHM-- KNEW--UHM--WASN'T ME!
DON'T BE A TOSSER! ISN'A DUPLICATE O' YOU STILL YOU?

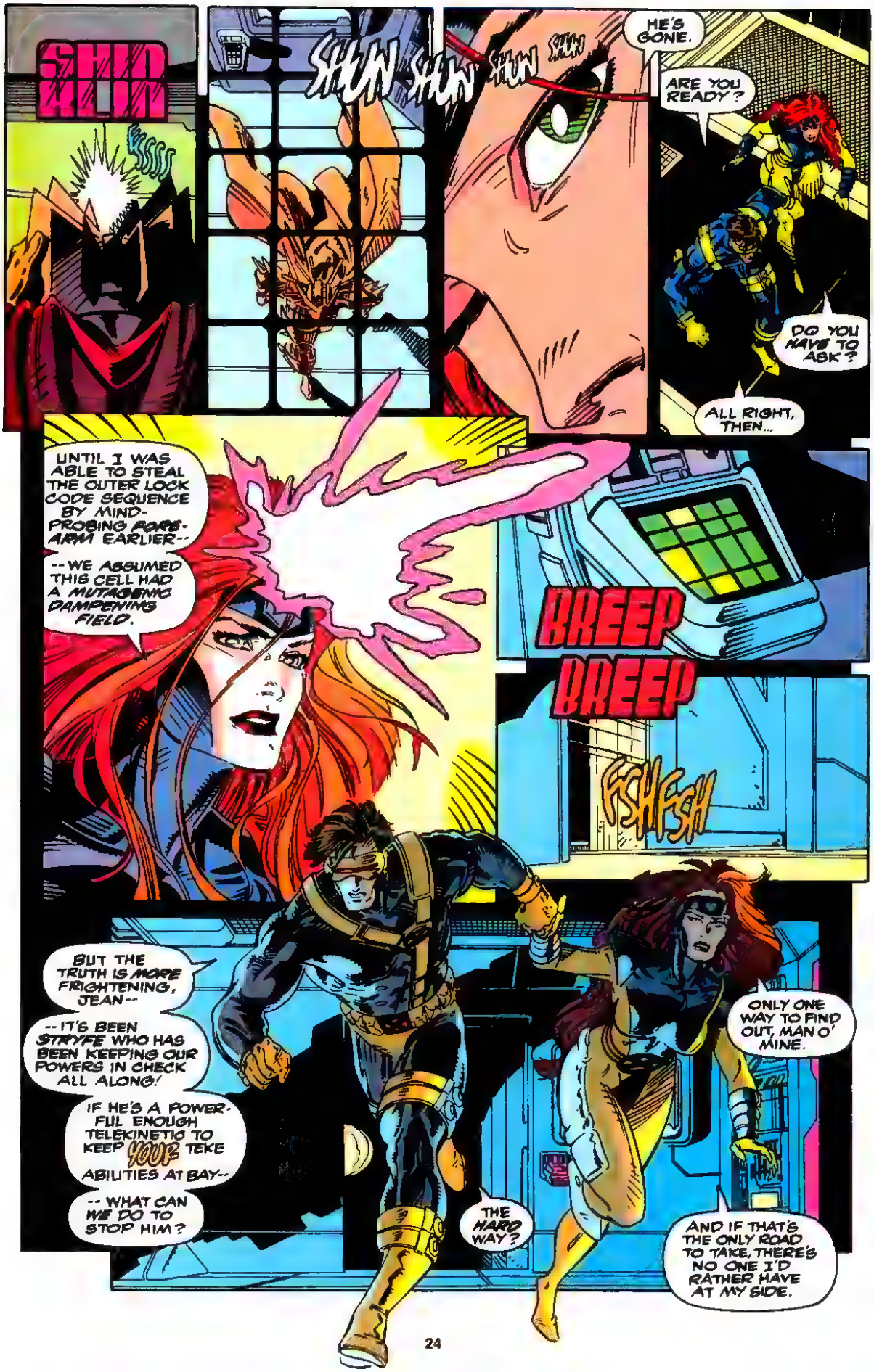

UHM--SORT OF-- I THINK--BUT IT'S LIKE I SEE US ON A MOVIE SCREEN--
--I DON'T FEEL IT HERE..
TAP
TAP


--I'M ONLY AWARE OF IT UP HERE.
TIP
TIP
I UNDERSTAND. TRULY...
AN' I'D RATHER NOT BE TALKIN' ABOUT IT NO MORE, IF'N YE DON'T MIND.


HEY, GANG, HEARD SOME A' Y'ALLS FEATHERS'RE GETTIN' RUSTLED DOWN HERE.
WE'RE MOVIN' THINGS ALONG AS FAST AS WE CAN TOP-SIDE.
HOW'RE Y'ALL HOLDIN' UP?

FINE, SAM...
JUST FINE..

SOMEWHERE ELSE...
INTERIOR VIEW.
OCCUPANTS: SCOTT SUMMERS: CYCLOPS AND JEAN GREY
CONDITION STATUS: NOMINAL
SHUN
SHUN
SHUN
SHUN


SHIN
SHIN
SHIN SHIN SHIN SHIN
HE'S GONE.
ARE YOU READY?
DO YOU HAVE TO ASK?
ALL RIGHT, THEN...
UNTIL I WAS ABLE TO STEAL THE OUTER LOCK CODE SEQUENCE BY MIND-PROBING FORE-ARM EARLIER--
--WE ASSUMED THIS CELL HAD A MUTAGENIC DAMPENING FIELD.
BREEP
BREEP
FSHFSH
BUT THE TRUTH IS MORE FRIGHTENING, JEAN--
--IT'S BEEN STRYFE WHO HAS BEEN KEEPING OUR POWERS IN CHECK ALL ALONG!
IF HE'S A POWERFUL ENOUGH TELEKINETIC TO KEEP YOUR TEKE ABILITIES AT BAY--
-- WHAT CAN WE DO TO STOP HIM?
THE HARD WAY?
ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT, MAN O' MINE.
AND IF THAT'S THE ONLY ROAD TO TAKE, THERE'S NO ONE I'D RATHER HAVE AT MY SIDE.

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Hi, Heroes!

You know the way our Chinese friends celebrate different years like "The Year of the Pig," or "The Year of the Dragon"? Well, for mighty Marvel, 1992 has most definitely been "The Year of the Spider," and what a great year it's been! Spider-Man's thirtieth anniversary has kept our whole blushing bullpen busy with special Hologram-Cover Issues, Spidey Conventions, Web-Slinger Parties and all sorts of arachnid-inspired fun 'n games!

Another, more subtle way that we've been celebrating everyone's favorite wall-crawler has been by introducing famous Marvel guest stars in Spidey's syndicated newspaper strip. Those of you who are lucky enough to have Spidey's daily strip in your local newspaper's comic section, have already seen the current episode which is just now zooming to a cataclysmic conclusion, the one featuring the ever dazzling and delightful Dr. Strange!

Well, here's a really sensational follow-up to the Spidey/Dr. Strange adventure. Starting sometime in October, the peripatetic Peter Parker will welcome another guest star to what is arguably the most popular newspaper story-strip in all the world — Daredevil, the Man Without Fear! This will be Matt Murdock's first appearance in any newspaper and I can promise you it'll be a zingeroo! Can't tell you much without spoiling the surprises for you — but I can clue you in about some new artists coming on board!

Floro Dery, who has so brilliantly illustrated the Spidey Sunday pages for the past decade or so, has been forced to give up his chores because of an increased work load at the animation studio which is his home base. Although I was genuinely sorry to bid Floro adieu, wait'll you hear who his exciting replacements will be!

To pencil Spidey's Sunday pages, we were lucky to grab Rampagin' **Ron Frenz**, the demon illustrator who, together with the scripting of Titanic **Tom DeFalco**, has made MIGHTY THOR one of Marvel's most consistent "must read" titles issue after issue! And, to ink Ron's awesome panels, we managed to lure one of Marvel's all-time greats out of semi-retirement — which means that the world once again will thrill to the exotic embellishments of the titanically talented Joltin' **Joe Sinnott**!

So, Ron and Joe now join forces with comicdom's own legendary **Larry Lieber**, who has been so pandemoniously penciling and inking Spidey's daily pages for lo these many years, to form the most spectacular art team on any newspaper page! It's all yours, for free, in your local newspaper! (And if your paper is one of the few that doesn't carry **The Amazing Spider-Man**, never underestimate the power of a letter to the editor!)

Now, until Spidey's next anniversary — Larry, Ron, Joe, and I urge thee most humbly — Keep Thy Webs Untangled!

Excelsior!

Stan

Stan Lee

When we think of October, we think of those scary people who put on masks, play tricks, and try to frighten everyone. That's right, we're talking about *politicians*! This is the time of year when politicos are plentiful, frightening even Red Ghosts, Scarlet Witches, and Hobgoblins! As every Marveloid knows, we're just weeks away from the funniest holiday of the year — **Election Day!**

In his very first appearance, the Amazing Spider-Man learned that with great power must come great responsibility. Well, every Marveloid out there over the age of 18 has great power, too — the power to *vote*! This is a responsibility many of us take for granted if at all. Think about it — we actually have the opportunity to help decide who will hold the most important position in the nation! Why not exercise some of your great responsibility that comes with the great power to vote? To register, call your municipal government office or the local chapter of the League of Woman Voters.

From the presidential race we move on to a footrace, as we track Marvel's standings in the 1992 Corporate Challenge. The Corporate Challenge is a series of 3 1/2-mile races held every June, in which companies all over New York compete to see who has the fastest workaholics. The big winner for Marvel this year was **Danny** "Speedy" **Gonzalez**, who finished one of the races in just 21 minutes. Other Marvel Quicksilvers were **Bernadette Ayala** of the Manufacturing Department, **Mary Sprowls** of the Finance Department, and editors **Don** (PUNISHER) **Daley** and **Glenn** (NOMAD) **Herdling**. The *apres*-race parties held at the Senior Exec Ed's place were also a runaway success!

The Marvel softball season is also racing to a close as we write this. We all must have had our catcher's masks on in June (not to mention our hitter's masks and our outfielder's masks), because we had a three-game winning streak, including a victory over *Billboard* magazine — a team which we had never before beaten in Marvel history! We wore the masks of tragedy, however, as DC trick-or-treated us to a loss in our second game against their squadron of all-stars. The DC/Marvel retro-rivalry is now tied at one game apiece, with one more left to play between the two companies.

One thing is for sure — the ultra-athletic DC team sure knows how to get the most out of a bat! (Maybe it would help our chances if we all wore Adam West masks!)

Bullpen neo-cartoonist **Rick Parker** and assistant editor **Barry Dutter** have good reason to throw a masquerade party this month! Ricko the Sicko and "Big" Barry have a hyper-funny book of cartoons coming out. The book is called *Everything I Really Need to Know I Learned from Television*, and is on sale in bookstores all across America. (By a strange coincidence, that same creative team is also responsible for the cartoon that appears each month on this very page!) It's the perfect reading material for All Hallow's Eve! It will help you laugh away all your fears!

If you *really* want to treat your neighborhood monsters, don't give them candy this Halloween — give them the all-new Marvel Masterpiece trading cards! This 100 card set features all your favorite heroes and villains, beautifully painted by Joe Jusko. Each card is a true work of art! And if your preference is for pictures that *move*, we'd also like to mention that the Marvel Video Cassette *Pryde of the X-Men* is now available at video retailers everywhere. Get a copy now and receive a $5 refund on other videos in MCV's catalog. No tricks here — just plenty of treats for everyone!

Till next time, remember, though Halloween comes but once a year, Marvel heroes wear masks and colorful costumes all year long! See you at the polls!

THE BULL'S EYE

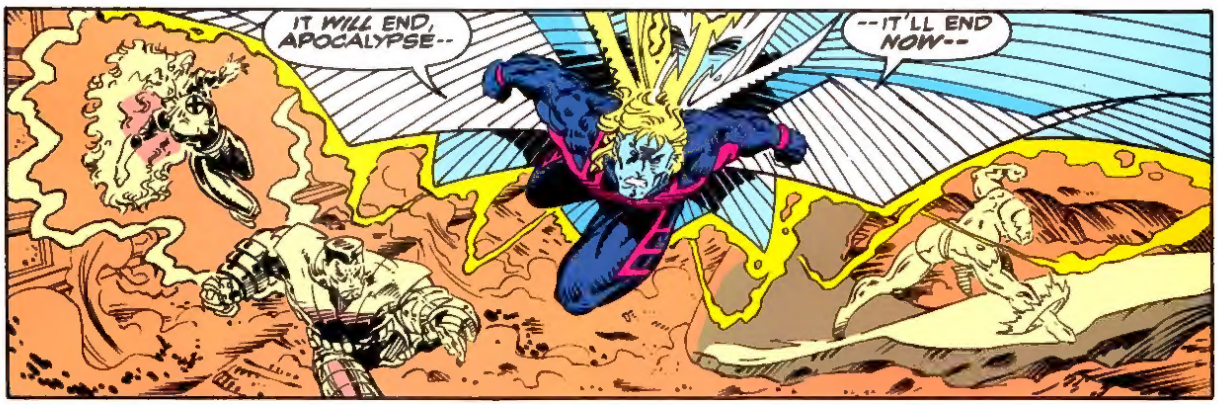
by Rick Parker & Barry Dutter

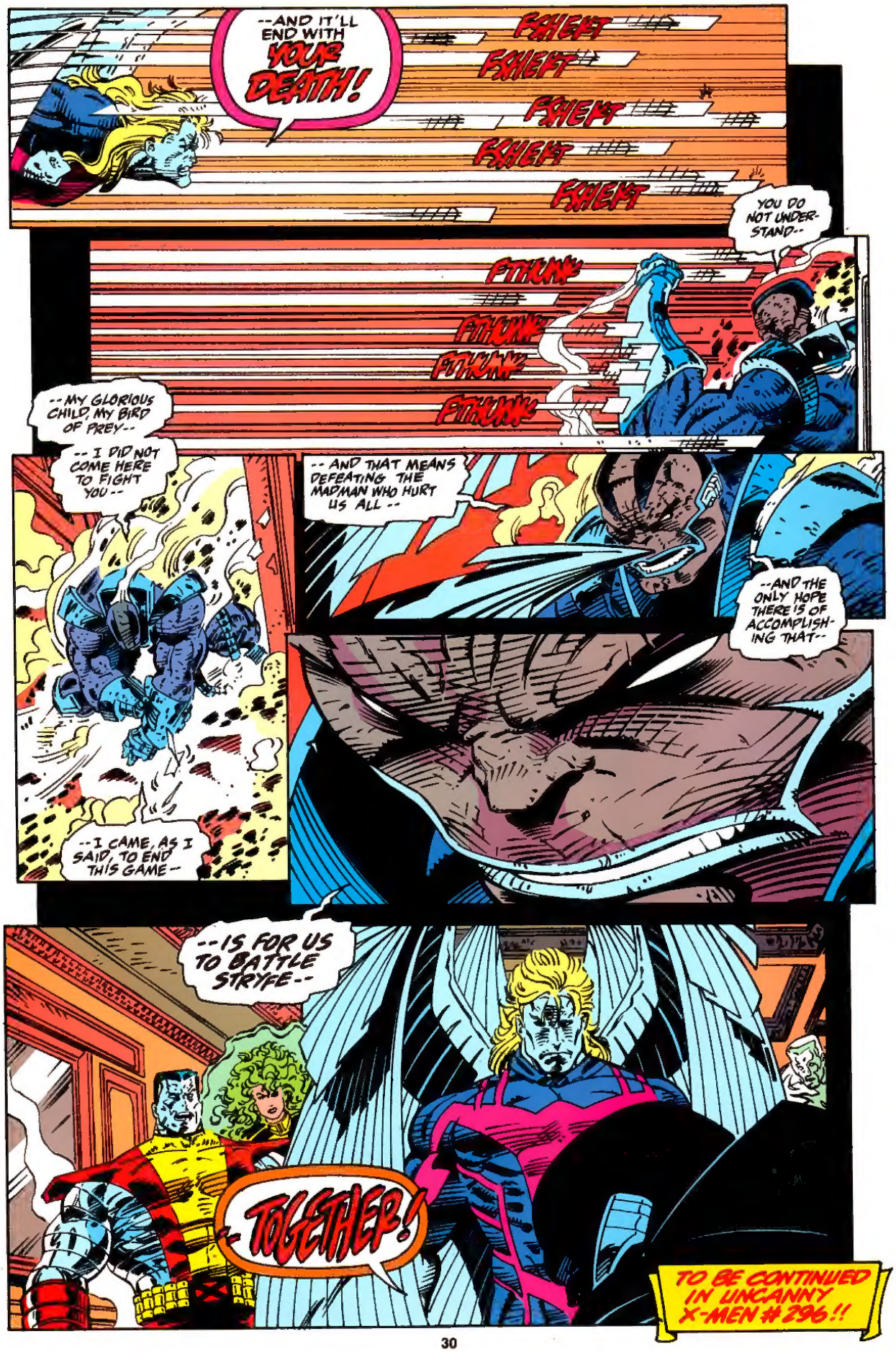
ACCENTS BIODIVERSITY ESCAPE CLAUSES OLYMPIC BULLPEN BORDERLINE BLATHER TRIPLECASTS FASHION STATEMENTS QUALITY-OF-LIFE

XAVIER'S MANSION...
YEESHAK-OW!
BOIZE MOI! WHAT HIT US?!
WHATEVER IT WAS, PETEY-BOY--
--I'LL BET YOU A BORSCHT BELT THAT IT TOOK OUT THE BIG-SCREEN TV!

OF ALL TIMES, WHY NOW?
DO NOT SPEAK AND STRAIN YOUR BROKEN JAW, POLARIS.
BRYEEP
BRYEEP
DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THERE'S MUCH LEFT TO SAY ANYWAYS.
ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS FIND OUT WHO EXACTLY WOULD BE STUPID ENOUGH TO ATTACK US IN OUR OWN HOME?
FORTUNATELY FOR ALL OF US, ROBERT DRAKE...
--THE ONE WHO IS HERE--
--IS NEITHER FOOL-- NOR AGGRESSOR...
YOU--?!
BRYEEP
BRYEEP
BRYEEP
BRYEEP
BRYEEP

...ME, WARREN WORTHINGTON... MY SON...
...AND EVEN THROUGH THE RAVAGES I HAVE ENDURED--
--I FEEL-- PLEASED-- TO SEE MY GREATEST CREATION--
--MY DARK ANGEL OF DEATH--LOOKING SO... PREDATORY--
--SO DANGEROUS--
--A COMFORT INDEED, TO KNOW SUCH FURY IS WAITING TO BE UNLEASHED--
--AND THAT THIS GAME WILL SOON COME TO AN END...




--AND IT'LL END WITH YOUR DEATH!
FSHEKT
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YOU DO NOT UNDER-STAND--
FTHUNK
FTHUNK
FTHUNK
FTHUNK
--MY GLORIOUS CHILD, MY BIRD OF PREY--
--I DID NOT COME HERE TO FIGHT YOU--
--AND THAT MEANS DEFEATING THE MADMAN WHO HURT US ALL--
--AND THE ONLY HOPE THERE IS OF ACCOMPLISH-ING THAT--
--I CAME, AS I SAID, TO END THIS GAME--
--IS FOR US TO BATTLE STRYFE--
--TOGETHER!
TO BE CONTINUED IN UNCANNY X-MEN #296!!

CABLEGRAMS

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LIBA PATRICK: assistant editor
c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP — 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, NY 10016
ATTENTION CORRESPONDENTS: If you don't want your full name and address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear CableGrams,

I've been collecting comic books for only six months now, so I'm not one to be a critic, but I have noticed something. Cable's face keeps falling apart. Get the poor guy to a plastic surgeon!! But seriously... I do have some questions about the most awesome new series--X-FORCE!!!

1) A friend of mine told me that Cable was leaving X-Force. If this is true, how will the group function?

2) I've noticed that Stryfe looks like Cable (duh!), so is that why Kane wants the real Cable dead?

3) I'd like to see more about Sam Guthrie. Okay, we know that he is an External, but is that it?

4) Is Domino still going to remain a member of X-Force? I hope so.

5) Does Boom-Boom always care that much about the way she looks? She reminds me of my sister.

So thanks for all the excellent artwork, the fantastic stories, and the great colors! It makes perfect reading material!!!

Eric Redmond
3602 Cr. 35
Auburn, IN 46706

If you think that Cable has problems with his face, you should check out Terror who made a guest appearance in WOLVERINE #58 and #59. But seriously, Eric, here are the answers to your questions:

1) Without him.

2) Yup.

3) Over the next several issues, you'll learn more about Sam, the Externals, and the Highlords.

4) Keep watching!

5) Funny, she reminds us of your sister too!

Dear X-Force,

Correct me if I am wrong, but isn't Shatterstar from the same dimension as Longshot? And isn't he from the same race as Longshot? Well, if so, why doesn't Shatterstar have three fingers just like Longshot? Other than that, I think that X-FORCE is X-cellent, and any bozo who thinks otherwise will have to answer to me!

Adam Holliday
Unit 4/6 Helen St.
Lane Cove
Sydney NSW
Australia

Adam, not only is Shatterstar from the same dimension as Longshot, but after certain revelations in X-MEN #11, it seems that Shatterstar could be related to Dazzler and Longshot! That might explain why he has five fingers, yes?

Dear CableGrams,

I just finished reading issue #13 of this awesome comic called X-FORCE, and it was great even though it only featured the battle with Weapon: Prime. Almost always, something big takes place in the last few pages of any given issue of X-FORCE. Then you have to wait forever to find out what happens in the next issue! A little faster order of occurances would be appreciated!!! But the comic is still great, and I love the artwork.

From reading the letters page in issue #12, I checked issue #8, and I found the Gideon tombstone. I can clearly see 993, but you can't see what digit is supposed to precede it. Since Gideon is an External, and Cable is a timetraveller, it could be 2993 or even 3993! How about it?

Fredrik Larsson
S Ligarden 113
42530 Hisings Karra
Sweden

We're not only putting out X-Force as quickly as possible, Fred, but we're trying to please our fans by providing you with X-FORCE, the "X-cutioner's Song" crossover, the CABLE limited series, the upcoming STRYFE'S STRIKE FILE, and many more X-products. But this doesn't mean that we're not going to make you wait to see just "when" Gideon will bite the big one!

Dear CableGrams,

First of all, I think the new art in issue #13 is incredible--particularly the fight scenes! It's nice to see the characters finally show emotion on their faces. As far as the story is concerned, it's just great! I don't really like those books where you know everything about every character (like SPIDER-MAN, for instance). However, I would like to know just what Cable did to get everyone so mad at him.

There is one thing that bothers me about the other X-FORCE characters, though. None of them seem to have a life. They're teenagers, aren't they? They need to do something fun now and again, like parties, concerts, sports, and hanging out with friends. And what about their futures? Will they always want to be super heroes? When will we see some of their old friends--Roberto, Rictor, Skids, Rusty. More interaction with the other X-teams would be nice. All in all, X-FORCE is still one of the best comic books money can buy. So until Siryn gets laryngitis, Make Mine Marvel!!!

Roger Graham
(Address withheld by request)

Some things we can give you, like more interaction with the other X-books and the return of Sunspot and Rictor. But the return to a normal teenage lifestyle is something that the members of X-Force have given up. These are not your average teenagers. They are fugitives, heroes, and devoted to their cause. For better or worse, these aren't the New Mutants anymore!

Dear CableGrams,

I am writing about X-Force #10-13. These were the best issues of X-FORCE to date! I do have a couple of questions, though. Since Cable is from the future, could Stryfe be the Cable of today? If he is, and they fight, and Cable wins, wouldn't Cable be erased from existence? Let's see Cannonball and Krule fight! I want to see it. So until Cable starts wearing blue tights, a red cape, and calls himself "SuperCable," Make Mine Marvel!!!

J.T. Ready
7542 Autumn Park
San Antonio, TX 78249

We're not ready to disclose the Cable/Stryfe connection quite yet, J.T., but don't count your theories out just yet! At this point in time, your guess is as good as anyone else's!!!

Dear Folks,

I'm not going to ask why everyone from the Six Pack hates Cable, because the answer will probably be, "Everything will be cleared up in the CABLE limited series."

Obviously, Cable did not kill Rictor's father. Stryfe killed him. THat is why Cable didn't recognize him when he first took over the New Mutants.

Krule and Gideon do not look over fifty years old. Are they both Highlords/Externals? That reminds me, what is the difference between a Highlord and an External?

Ditto Masterson
(Address withheld by request)

Not much, Ditto.

Dear CableGrams,

X-FORCE is great, but it is not living up to its potential. I've read somewhere that Cable will be leaving in issue #15. I can't say that I will miss him, but I do think it is too early for his departure. I suppose he is going off to find the real Domino, and he will probably return sooner or later. I really hope that this means X-Force will be returning to Professor Xavier.

Terry Miller
(Address withheld by request)

Sorry, Terry, but the days at the X-mansion are over for X-Force! Even with Cable gone, you'll see that X-Force will do just fine without Charles Xavier's guiding hand!!!

Next Issue: The focus turns to Scott and Jean as they seek to escape Stryfe's deadly prison! The X-Men and Apocalypse forge an uneasy alliance to save Xavier's life! Don't miss the next chapter of the "X-Cutioner's Song" in Uncanny #296!